

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing the damage done by reactive oxygen species (ROS) in an animal comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a peptide having the formula:

$$P_1 - P_2,$$

wherein:

P_1 is:

Xaa₁ Xaa₂ His: or

Xaa₁ Xaa₂ His Xaa₃;

P_2 is (Xaa₄)_n;

Xaa₁ is the N-terminal amino acid of the peptide and is glycine, alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, serine, threonine, aspartic acid, asparagine, glutamic acid, glutamine, lysine, hydroxylysine, histidine, arginine, ornithine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, cysteine, methionine, or α -hydroxymethylserine;

Xaa₂ is glycine, alanine, β -alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, serine, threonine, aspartic acid, asparagine, glutamic acid, glutamine, lysine, hydroxylysine, histidine, arginine, ornithine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, cysteine, methionine, or α -hydroxymethylserine;

Xaa₃ is glycine, alanine, valine, lysine, arginine, ornithine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, asparagine, glutamine or tryptophan;

Xaa₄ is any amino acid; and

n is 0-100;

or a physiologically-acceptable salt thereof.

Please cancel Claims 32-58 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter thereof.